

REMARKS

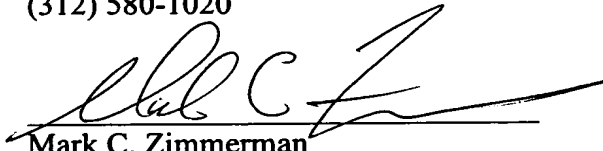
By way of this preliminary amendment, the specification has been amended to include a reference to the parent PCT application. The addition of this reference is timely under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2)(ii) because it is being submitted within four months from the date on which the national stage commenced under 35 U.S.C. § 371. As evidenced by the IPER already issued by the USPTO, all pending claims are in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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